

Southwest Oncology Group offer patients access to the newest treatment protocols. The radiation oncology service is the busiest in the state and the center offers free annual screenings for skin, prostate, breast and oral cancer. The oncology center goes beyond medical treatment, offering weekly support groups for patients, a comprehensive calendar of educational programs and extensive home care programs that aid not just cancer patients but their families as well.

A distinguishing characteristic of Valley's cancer programs is the availability and quality of radiation seed implant therapy for prostate cancer. Valley has attracted patients from around the world as the result of its unique prostate implant program, pioneered by urologist Howard Sandler, M.D., and radiation oncologist David Greenblatt, M.D. Physicians from across the country have come to Valley to learn brachytherapy from Drs. Sandler and Greenblatt and Dr. Michael Wesson, also a radiation oncologist.

During our lifetime, we have seen cancer go from a virtual death sentence to a disease that is often treatable, survivable and preventable. The overall survival rate for all forms of cancer—including the worst varieties—now stands at 60 percent. The survival rate for some of the better-understood cancers, such as breast cancer, is 81 percent. And if all Americans participated in screenings that could catch cancer at its early stages, experts estimate that 95 percent of cancer patients would survive. Since 1990, cancer death rates have been dropping an average 0.6 percent per year, according to the National Cancer Institute.

Despite these advances, more than 1.2 million new cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed this year and more than half a million people are expected to die—about 1,500 each day. Cancer is the second-leading cause of death in the United States, exceeded only by heart disease, and one of every four deaths is from cancer.

Sadly, many of these deaths occur even though they are preventable. Tobacco and alcohol related cancer account for nearly half of all cancer cases and are completely avoidable simply by not smoking and drinking only in moderation. Many skin cancers are caused by excessive exposure to sunlight and can be prevented by the simple use of suntan lotion and reduced exposure. Screening is available for many forms of cancer, including breast, colon, rectum, cervix, prostate, testis, oral and skin. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of detecting cancer as early as possible—early treatment can mean the difference between life and death.

Today, we are within grasp of a cure for many forms of cancer but much research remains to be done. I thank God for those who are willing to labor toward this goal and pray that with their help a cure can be found and that no one will ever again have to suffer from this terrible disease.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ROC TO DONATE \$300 MILLION TO HELP KOSOVAR REFUGEES

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 7, 1999, after chairing a meeting concerning the Kosovo crisis, President Lee Teng-hui announced that the Republic of China will donate \$300 million to help Kosovar refugees rebuild their homes. I would like to applaud the ROC for playing an active role in the "world arena" and working together to maintain world peace. Humanitarian aid to Kosovar refugees is a common goal for all countries. In recognition of their honorable deed I am submitting President Lee Teng-hui's statement regarding assistance to Kosovar refugees.

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO KOSOVAR REFUGEES

The huge numbers of Kosovar casualties and refugees from the Kosovo area resulting from the NATO-Yugoslavia conflict in the Balkans have captured close world-wide attention. From the very outset, the government of the ROC has been deeply concerned and we are carefully monitoring the situation's development.

We in the Republic of China were pleased to learn last week that Yugoslavia Slobodan Milosevic has accepted the peace plan for the Kosovo crisis proposed by the Group of Eight countries, for which specific peace agreements are being worked out.

The Republic of China wholeheartedly looks forward to the dawning of peace on the Balkans. For more than two months, we have been concerned about the plight of the hundreds of thousands of Kosovar refugees who were forced to flee to other countries, particularly from the vantage point of our emphasis on protecting human rights. We thereby organized a Republic of China aid mission to Kosovo. Carrying essential relief items, the mission made a special trip to the refugee camps in Macedonia to lend a helping hand.

Today, as we anticipate a critical moment of forth-coming peace, I hereby make the following statement to the international community on behalf of all the nationals of the Republic of China:

As a member of the world community committed to protecting and promoting human rights, the Republic of China would like to develop further the spirit of humanitarian concern for the Kosovar refugees living in exile as well as for the war-torn areas in dire need of reconstruction. We will provide \$300 million. The aid will consist of the following:

1. Emergency support for food shelters, medical care, and education, etc. for the Kosovar refugees, living in exile in neighboring countries.
2. Short-term accommodations for some of the refugees in Taiwan, with opportunities of job training in order for them to be better equipped for the restoration of their homeland upon their return.
3. Furthermore, support the rehabilitation of Kosovo area in coordination with international long-term recovery programs when the peace plan is implemented.

We earnestly hope that the above-mentioned aid will contribute to the promotion of the peace plan for Kosovo. I wish all the refugees an early return to their safe and peaceful Kosovo homes.

June 10, 1999

A TRIBUTE TO ODUNDE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Odunde, Philadelphia's oldest and largest community-based festival, on the occasion of its 24th anniversary. The word Odunde originates from the Yoruba people of Nigeria, West Africa, and means Happy New Year. The festival is a recreation of traditional West African cultural festivals that celebrate the coming of another year through music, dance and prayer. Held in one of South Philadelphia's historically significant African American neighborhoods, Odunde attracts over 300,000 people annually and it has gained the reputation of being one of the largest African American street festivals in the United States.

Known for its authentic African marketplace with vendors selling a variety of artifacts, African clothing, educational materials and African, Caribbean and African American food, Odunde represents a tremendous economic opportunity for entrepreneurs.

Odunde is a vital cultural and educational experience that has become an important part of the Philadelphia experience. Odunde celebrates the rich cultural legacy of Africans of the diaspora and the experience enriches us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, in light of my absence on Thursday, June 10, 1999, I wish to announce my position on the following amendments for the record: the Buyer to H.R. 1401 (rollcall vote No. 185)—Yes; the Traficant to H.R. 1401 (rollcall vote No. 186)—Yes; the Souder to H.R. 1401 (rollcall vote No. 187)—No; the Skelton to H.R. 1401 (rollcall vote No. 188)—Yes; the Shays to H.R. 1401 (rollcall vote No. 189)—No; the Weldon to H.R. 1401 (rollcall vote No. 190)—Yes.

And last, I announce my strong support for final passage of H.R. 1401, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 2000 to 2001, and for other purposes.

VIRGINIA BEACH PROCLAMATION OF RABBI ISRAEL ZOBERMAN DAY

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, the City of Virginia Beach recently issued the following proclamation honoring Rabbi Israel Zoberman, the founding Rabbi of Beth Chaverim, the Reform Jewish Congregation of Virginia Beach:

Whereas Rabbi Zoberman was honored at a special reception on April 23, 1999 at Beth Chaverim; and

Whereas Rabbi Zoberman is the founding Rabbi of Beth Chaverim, the Reform Jewish Congregation of Virginia Beach; and

Whereas Rabbi Zoberman has been in the ministry for twenty-five years and was awarded the honorary doctor of divinity degree from his alma mater, the Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati Campus; and

Whereas Rabbi Zoberman is the first rabbi to serve as chairman of the Community Relations Council of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater. He is a contributing editor to the Jewish Spectator. He is also the past president of the Hampton Roads Board of Rabbis and Virginia Beach Clergy Association; and

Whereas Beth Chaverim was the only Jewish congregation in the world to meet regularly in a Catholic Church; the Church of the Ascension in Virginia Beach and a close bond was established between the two organizations; and

Whereas Rabbi Zoberman has been a force for good as his ministry has touched not only the citizens of Hampton Roads, but many others throughout the world;

Now, Therefore, I, Meyera E. Oberndorf, Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, do hereby proclaim April 23, 1999 Rabbi Israel Zoberman Day in Virginia Beach, and call upon all citizens to recognize his many contributions to the city.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to be affixed this Twenty-third day of April, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Nine. Meyera E. Oberndorf

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE JOHN R. HARVEY UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM HIS OFFICE AS CHIEF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, ATLANTIC JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ON MAY 31, 1999

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, quite simply, what separates civilized countries from countries which know only official corruption, abuse of power, and economic misery is the rule of law.

Without respect for the rule of law, countries with stunning natural resource wealth, extraordinary human capital, and even formidable military might are nothing more than failed models.

The Soviet Union, and now Russia, possessed all of these attributes.

And yet the Soviet Union was never more than a declining power and a model from which its citizens tried to flee by the thousands.

It was never one to which millions yearned to come to, and realize new and exciting possibilities.

Although the Soviet Union is an extreme case, too little regard for the rule of law is the norm, and it characterizes regimes on every continent.

America however, has always been different.

Historians have spoken of American Exceptionalism since the days of Alexis de Tocqueville over 150 years ago, and one of the most important ingredients in this belief about our special, even God-given role in the world is our regard for the rule of law.

Judge John Harvey, who retired from the bench as Chief Superior Court Judge of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit on May 31st of this year, is a man whose entire professional life inspires faith in the rule of law.

A man of probity and regard for honor, Judge Harvey brought to his life's work a quiet determination and unceasing commitment to do right.

We Americans believe in the basic framework of our rule of law as embodied in the Constitution, a document which has stood the test of time.

Despite the steady erosion in the freedoms guaranteed in this document over the past several decades, we still revere the Constitution as a reflection of what we believe in as a people, what the relationship between the ruled and rulers should be, and what is right and good about the most successful experiment in democracy the world has ever seen.

But the Constitution is not enough.

A piece of paper can never alone ensure respect for the rule of law.

It cannot protect us from encroachments on our freedom.

And it can never forfend the inevitable tendency of rulers to abuse their power.

For the rule of law to triumph, honest men and a virtuous people must insist that it triumph, and they must step forward and demand that threats to our freedom be vanquished.

The Constitution provides us with the road map; but honest judges, dedicated police officers, lawyers with integrity, and ethical federal administrators, are the ones who must make the rule of law a reality, a system to which all citizens can appeal, and from which all citizens can receive justice.

If even the least among us is denied justice under our system of laws, faith in our rule of law is undermined, and our freedoms are no longer safe.

Absent people who are committed to the rule of law, citizens will not have faith that their grievances will be addressed, or that the law-abiding will be protected from those who wish to do us harm.

Judge Harvey possesses the kind of even temperament and fair-minded approach to every case that send a signal to plaintiffs and defendants alike that in this case, in this court, before this judge, the law will be upheld and every attempt will be made for the truth to triumph.

Judge Harvey was a popular judge who was respected for his sharp legal mind and judicious demeanor.

But he was esteemed and admired even more for his reverence for the law and for his integrity.

His early success in his life as a distinguished jurist—becoming superior court judge at the age of 38—did nothing to lessen his commitment to his youthful ideals of serving as an honest lawyer in a noble profession.

Indeed, his achievement merely spurred him to take his responsibilities even more seriously and with even greater care.

Judge Harvey always wanted to be a lawyer.

Some lawyers engender respect for the rule of law; others bring our system of laws into disrepute and cause people to lose faith in the very government we elect to serve us.

Judge Harvey always dreamed of becoming a lawyer in the first category, a lawyer who will make the system work the way it is supposed to.

America will cease to be a country where the rule of law is respected without people like Judge John Harvey.

Rising before the sun and leaving the office after colleagues decades his junior, Judge Harvey adhered to work habits and ethical that touched the lives of countless individuals who are responsible for making sure that our Constitution is more than a piece of paper of an inspired origin.

His profession, his task, is to make sure that the system works and to create in the citizenry a regard for the rule of law that is all too rare in most countries of the world.

In that task, his efforts were singularly successful, and his departure from the bench is a great loss to us all.

But the example he set for others remains, and his impact will long outlive his tenure as a sitting judge.

Judge Harvey makes me proud to be an American, and it is my great honor to pay tribute to him today.

Judge Harvey, thank you for your outstanding service to the United States of America; we will miss you.

CONFLICT IN KASHMIR

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because of concerns for the increased tensions in the Kashmir region of India. From the accounts that I've seen, it is my understanding that the current fighting near Kargil, Kashmir, is the most dangerous escalation since the Indo-Pak war of 1971. The current crisis apparently began when a heavily armed, and considerably large force comprised of Islamic terrorists and Pakistani regulars, including some of Osama bin Laden's followers, crossed the "Line of Control" into India, occupying Indian military positions that had been temporarily abandoned for the winter season. Indian security forces took prompt action to remove these infiltrators and defend Indian territory. Units of the Pakistani Army quickly joined the fighting, providing the infiltrators with heavy artillery fire as well as firing at Indian aircraft and helicopters striking the infiltrators' positions.

There should be no doubt that this operation could not have taken place without the direct support from, and authorization of, the highest levels of government in Islamabad. The Islamist terrorists involved, including supporters of bin Laden's, have received specialized training and equipment in camps in Pakistan since the Fall of 1998. The infiltrating force itself—a composite grouping of Pakistani